PATENT SPECIFICATION

697,500

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements relating to Ice Cream Wafer Holders.

I, ALFRED JAMES, a British Subject, of 102 Pear Tree Crescent, Derby, in the County of Derby, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to ice cream wafer holders.

Such devices usually consist of a fixed oblong tray with a movable bottom. The bottom can be withdrawn into the tray to allow for the insertion of the wafer biscuit and the subsequent depositing of the ice cream upon it; when the second wafer biscuit has been placed in position, the bottom can be returned so as to extrude the ice cream wafer.

The usual method of mounting the movable bottom is by attaching it to a spring-loaded plunger, and a projecting thumb-piece or the like is provided to operate it against the spring action. Under constant use, this repeated thumb action can become painful and even injurious to the operator.

According to the present invention the tray is provided with a fixed member adapted to be held in the hand, the tray having a movable bottom operatively associated with a lever capable of being gripped or squeezed against the fixed member, the arrangement being such that movement of the lever serves to operate the movable bottom of the tray.

A constructional form of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device in its normal position.

Figure 2 is a part sectional elevation showing the movable bottom of the wafer holder drawn inwards.

The wafer holder 10 is shown in the form of an oblong tray, the bottom 10*a* of which has a tubular member 11 fixed to it extending at right angles to the bottom of the tray and forming a fixed stem or holder which can easily be grasped in the hand. The member 11 has an internal flange 11*a*, forming a location for one end of a coil spring 12, the other end of which bears against a plate 13 forming a movable bottom for the wafer holder tray 10. The plate 13 has a tubular extension 14 which passes through the member 11 and the coil spring 12 fits round the tubular extension 14. The tubular member 11 has a bracket extension 15 at the bottom in which a lever 16 is pivoted at 17. One end of the lever is connected to the inner tubular extension 14. The lever 16 has an upstanding piece 18 and when this is squeezed against the fixed member 11 the action of the lever 16 will draw the inner tubular extension 14 through the fixed member 11, from the position seen in Figure 1 to the position seen in Figure 2, and the member 14 will draw the movable plate 13 of the wafer holder inwards relative to the tray 10 so that the ice cream wafer can be produced. As soon as the upstanding piece 18 is released the spring action will cause the reverse movement and the movable bottom will extrude the wafer. The pivot pin 17 has a winged head 17*a* so that it can easily be withdrawn, allowing the lever 16 to be drawn through a slot in the inner extension 14, whereupon the parts can be dismantled completely for cleaning.

What I claim is:—

1. An ice cream wafer holder having a tray provided with a fixed member adapted to be held in the hand, the tray having a movable bottom operatively associated with a lever capable of being gripped or squeezed against the fixed member, the arrangement being such that movement of the lever serves to operate the movable bottom of the tray.

2. An ice cream wafer holder as claimed in Claim 1 in which the movable bottom of the wafer holder has a tubular extension

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slidable within the fixed member attached to the wafer holder tray, a lever being connected to the end of the tubular member further from the tray, the lever having an upstanding piece which can be gripped or squeezed against the fixed member attached to the wafer holder tray.

3. An ice cream wafer holder according to any of the preceding claims in which the movement of the movable bottom into the tray is opposed by spring action.

4. An ice cream wafer holder comprising a tray, a movable bottom plate located in the tray, a tubular member centrally extending at right angles on the bottom of the tray, an extension on the movable bottom passing through the tubular member on the bottom of the tray, and lever means connected to the extension by which the movable bottom is drawn into the tray against spring action when the lever means is squeezed against the tubular member.

5. An ice cream wafer holder constructed and arranged as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

W. SWINDELL & PEARSON.
Chartered Patent Agents.
Derby and Hanley.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

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The usual method of mounting the movable bottom is by attaching it to a spring-loaded plunger, and a projecting thumb-piece or the like is provided to operate it against the spring action. Under constant use, this repeated thumb action can become painful and even injurious to the operator.

According to the present invention the movable bottom of a wafer holder is operatively associated with a lever adapted to be held in the hand in such a way that by gripping or squeezing the lever against a fixed member the necessary movement is imparted to the movable bottom to withdraw it into its tray or to expel it again to extrude the wafer.

The necessary interaction between the tray and the movable lever may be contrived in a variety of ways.

Preferably the movable lever actuates a rack which imparts a rotary movement to a pinion mounted on a worm spindle, the worm action being communicated to the movable bottom.

Any other simple means of converting a rotary movement into a longitudinal movement may however be employed.

In carrying out the invention according to one example of construction a pair of levers are pivoted together, rather after the manner of a pair of tongues, the levers being of a suitable shape and size to be held in the hand and gripped conveniently. They are normally urged apart by spring action. One of the levers carries a worm spindle having a pinion mounted on it. The other lever carries a rack whose teeth engage with the pinion and rotate the worm spindle when the levers are squeezed together. The worm spindle extends more or less in the same direction as the pivot point of the levers and passes into a suitable housing, which also receives a sleeve attached to the movable bottom of the wafer holder. The worm on the spindle co-acts with this sleeve in such a way that when the levers are squeezed together, the worm by reason of the action of its threads against suitable co-operating parts on the sleeve will draw the sleeve and the movable bottom of the wafer holder inwards relative to the tray, so that the ice cream wafer can be produced; as soon as the lever is released the spring action will cause the reverse movement and the movable bottom will extrude the wafer.

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697,500 COMPLETE SPECIFICATION
1 SHEET

This drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.

FIG. 1.

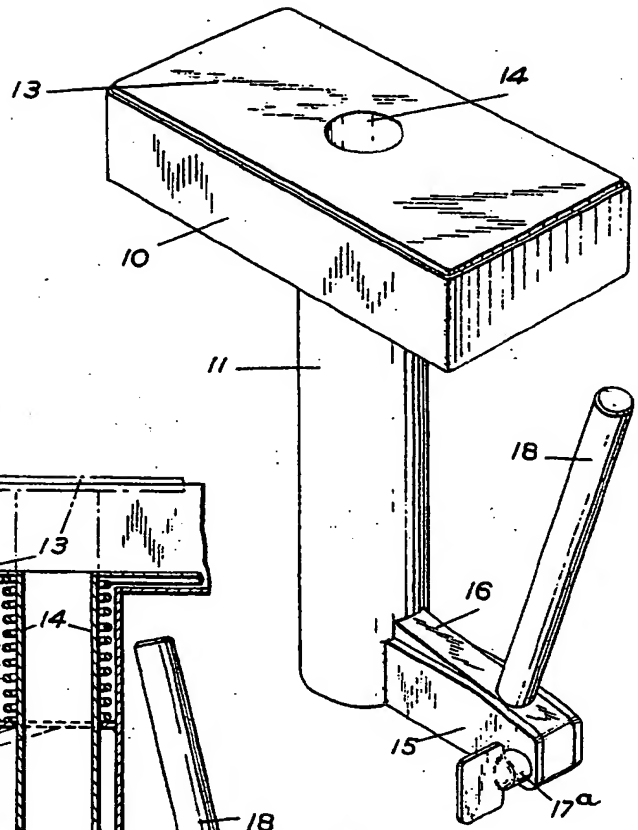

FIG. 2.